



# The *Blurb*



*Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club*

**Public Service Since 1949**

Volume 58 Number 6

[www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org)

June 2008

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*It's baack ...  
Yes friends, it's time once again for  
Field Day!  
See the summary from Carmen on page 7*

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**June 15<sup>th</sup> is Father's day!**

Hey, how about a gift certificate to his favorite radio supplier?

*You know, if you can't find that perfect tie ...*

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***Ed's update on Echolink and using proxy servers***

I wrote an article a while ago outlining how to use Echolink away from your home Internet connection. At that time it was a bit cumbersome to use, but that is no longer the case. *Continued on page 5*

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***Situation report on China earthquake***

The involvement in the Sichuan earthquake disaster of ham radio continues with the latest report that the Red Cross has enlisted the emergency communication skills of radio amateurs.

The IARU radio society, the Chinese Radio Sports Association reports that long distance telephone services were at times congested in the Chengdu area, presumably due to a heavy demand and damage, and it was asked to set up HF station in Chengdu. *See page 4*

<p><b><i>The Blurb</i></b> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. <b><i>Copying and quoting</i></b> is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. <b><i>Subscriptions</i></b> are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer.</p> <p><b><i>Editor:</i></b> Rick DeVirgiliis <b><i>KB3JWK</i></b>  <i>kb3jwk@arrl.net</i> 215-908-7225</p> <p><b><i>Club Archivist:</i></b> Gwen Patton <b><i>NG3P</i></b>  <i>ng3p@arrl.net</i> 610-630-9862</p> <p><b><i>Labels and mailing:</i></b> <b><i>WB3KOJ &amp; WB3KOH</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Submissions deadline:</i></b> All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.</p>	<p><b><i>Directors:</i></b>  <b><i>N3MT (08)</i></b>  <b><i>K3XS (08)</i></b>  <b><i>W3AOK (09)</i></b>  <b><i>WA3KIO (09)</i></b>  <b><i>N3XKE (09)</i></b>  <b><i>KB3IV (A)</i></b>  <b><i>ND3Q (SK)</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001</i></b>  <a href="http://www.phil-mont.org">http://www.phil-mont.org</a>      Webmistress: Maggie K3XS  <i>k3xs@arrl.net</i></p> <p><b><i>For club information:</i></b> Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: <i>wb3koj@comcast.net</i></p>	
<p><b><i>Sunday Morning Net Schedules</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>2 Meter/ 70cm Net</i></b> ..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater</li> <li>• <b><i>10-on-10 Net</i></b> ..... at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (<math>\pm</math>QRM)</li> <li>• <b><i>75 meter Net</i></b> ..... at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB</li> <li>• <b><i>ARES</i></b> at 2100L on the W3QV repeater</li> </ul>			
<p><b><i>Committees</i></b>      Archives: NG3P      Audit: NS3K      Awards: open      Blurb folding: WB3KOJ &amp; WB3KOH      Directory: WB3KOJ</p>	<p>DX: N3MT      Emerg.Coor: K3HWE      Field Day: KE3QB      Internet: K3XS      Membership: N3XKE      Net Control: KB3IV      Publicity: W3RM</p>	<p>Program: Club VP      Public Service: KE3QB      Refreshments: W3AOK      Repeater: W3AOK      Skywarn: WX3PHI      Sunshine: N3GLU</p>	<p>TVI: W3VVS      VE Program: NS3K      W3AA Trustee: WU3I      Welcome: N3UBY      Youth: N3MT</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>All visitors are welcome!</i></b></p> <p>The club meets at 7:30 PM on the <i>second</i> non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at <b><i>Roxborough Memorial Hospital, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128</i></b>      Maps and directions are available at <a href="http://www.phil-mont.org">www.phil-mont.org</a></p>			
<p><b><i>License Examinations</i></b> are held on the fourth <b><i>non-holiday Thursday</i></b> each month at <b><i>Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002</i></b>      Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or <a href="mailto:jmcclloskey@msn.com">jmcclloskey@msn.com</a> for the latest information.</p>			

***Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System***

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA ***Trustee: W3RM***

***147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz    444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz***

Reach us on EchoLink through ***WU3I-L***

***W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: W3VVS***

***The Officers***

***President: WU3I Steve Hoch, 546 Monastery Ave, Philadelphia PA 19128 wu3i@arrl.net***

***Vice President: N3QV Eric D. Marano, PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net***

***Secretary: W3STW Al Tribble wstw@juno.com***

***Treasurer: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net***

***Asst. Treasurer: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt\_1999@yahoo.com***

***The Prez Sez...***

Well here it is JUNE!!!

Are we ready for some Field Day?

I strongly encourage all to contact Carmen KE3QB if you have not by now. We need the total number of folks coming and eating the meals we plan to provide. The summer break is coming up and we will be heading to all the fun things we do when the weather gets warm and take our Summer Trips. Hopefully the Bands will improve and we can take and include Ham Radio in our summer plans. As I write this column I am preparing for the Memorial Day Holiday Weekend and one of the projects I have is to rehang the HF wire at the campground. We had to have 2 trees removed and one was the center hanger for the Wire. Travel safe this summer and keep hydrated. See you all in September.

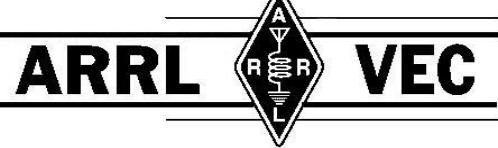
*de Steve, WU3I*

**MEMBERSHIP STATS**

At press time P.M.R.C. had:  
86 FULL PAID MEMBERS  
8 FAMILY MEMBERS  
1 YOUTH MEMBER  
2 HONORARY MEMBERS  
0 PENDING MEMBER

Save the Earth!  
Save the ozone!  
Save me a piece of birthday cake!

**ARRL VEC**

***May test results:***

Three candidates came out last month-  
one new technician license was issued.

*Many thanks to our Examiners:*  
WA3BXH, W3RM, N3UGI and N3XKE

The next Thursday session will be June 26<sup>th</sup>,  
and a Saturday morning session is planned  
for June 28<sup>th</sup> at 0900.

PHIL-MONT  
BIRTHDAYS  
&  
TID-BYTES

By  
WB3KOJ

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- |                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Jennifer Miller - KB3MIV    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Dick Moll - W3RM            |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Sue Sadwin - N2CYA          |
|                  | Chuck Hillman - K3QLY       |
| ***              |                             |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Thomas Maresca - (OM K3YPH) |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Miriam Elmaleh - K3UJI      |
| ***              |                             |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | John Coupe - WA3BXH         |
| ***              |                             |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | Anthony Vece - W2AJV        |
| ***              |                             |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Mike Lenczynski - KA3EIP    |
|                  | Fred Rice - WA3KIO          |

***From the Secretary******Minutes of the Board of Directors, 5/7/08***

The May board meeting was called to order at 2017 hours, with Ed, KB3IV, Dick, W3RM, Eric, N3QV, Fred, WA3KIO, and Al, W3STW in attendance. Dick reported on the Club's April '08 income and disbursement activities; reminded us about the FAR Scholarship Committee's June 1 application deadline; and presented a club membership application from Joseph Gormley, N3UGI. Dick's financial report and N3UGI's membership application were accepted and approved by the board.

While no action items were identified, discussions continued on the formation of the "Bug Squad" and its association with the Jim Spencer Memorial Equipment Program. VE team leader Jim, NS3K, thinks the program is a good way to help new Amateurs become involved in the hobby. He reports interested response from VE candidates to whom he has explained the club's new initiative. The meeting was adjourned 2105 hours.

***Minutes of the General Meeting, 5/14/08***

In the absence of the president, Ed, KB3IV, called the meeting to order at 2015 hours and gave a few words of welcome. He asked for volunteers for the Club's Sunday morning 75m, 10m, 2m and 70cm nets. Net control procedure can be found on the Club's web page, [www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org).

Dick, W3RM, the W3QV repeater licensee, discussed the repeater system's operating "macros" at different times of the day, and specifically how the repeater functions from midnight to 5 A.M. He explained why the repeater has wider coverage on 2m than on 70cm, in that there are three off-site receivers on 2 meters, (at Southampton, Villanova and Newtown Square) in addition to the main site, forwarding 2-meter signals to the main site on "auxilliary link" frequencies. The strongest received signal is selected by a "voter" and repeated. Dick stated that the system is monitored and controlled by six authorized control operators: W3AOK, N3FD, KB3IV, WU3I, N3QV and W3RM.

Dick, W3RM, as club treasurer, reported that our financial status remains good. He reminded us that the Foundation for Amateur Radio Scholarship Committee's deadline for scholarship applications is June 1<sup>st</sup>. Words of welcome were extended to new club member Joe Gormley, N3UGI. Joe was presented with his certificate and new member packet by membership chairman, Gene, N3XKE.

VE team leader Jim, NS3K, reported there were two candidates taking exams at the April 24 VE session. Both were successful, one advancing from Technician to General, the other from General to Extra. Jim tells us that the next test session will be on May 22. We were reminded that the Extra Class question pool changes June 30<sup>th</sup>. Blurb editor Rick, KB3JWK, reminds us that articles for the Blurb should be submitted to him by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

There being no other club business, Eric, N3QV, VP and program chairman, introduced Fred, WA3KIO. Fred presented a very interesting lecture about the Regenerative Receiver, featuring a 1924 Radiola receiver, and a hands-on opportunity to interact with the demonstration. Thank you, Fred. The meeting adjourned at 2153 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
***Al, W3STW, Secretary***

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***Get the coveted "NCS" next to your call!***

Ed, KB3IV, is offering an every-other-month schedule. Limited time only, first come first served! But seriously folks, Ed needs help. Contact him and get in the Sunday morning rotation.

*[And no wise cracks about what kind of help he needs!] \*\*\*\*\**

***China situation (cont.)***

Under the callsign **BT8RC** it established a good channel for the Chinese Red Cross Foundation from Beijing to Chengdu. This is providing communications to enable the relief agency to more effectively carry out its work.

Other cities in the earthquake area had setup or restored VHF and UHF repeaters and amateur radio communication teams to assist with communication.

The Sichuan Radio Sports Association station **BY8AA** has been helping many others with communication and during one week had an operational log of 300 pages.

The CRSA sends its thanks to the amateur radio community for keeping three frequencies - 7050, 7060 and 14270 kiloHertz clear these are continuing to be used for emergency communications.

The nation of China is in mourning for the estimated 50,000 people killed in the earthquake on the 12th of May which measured eight on the Richter scale.

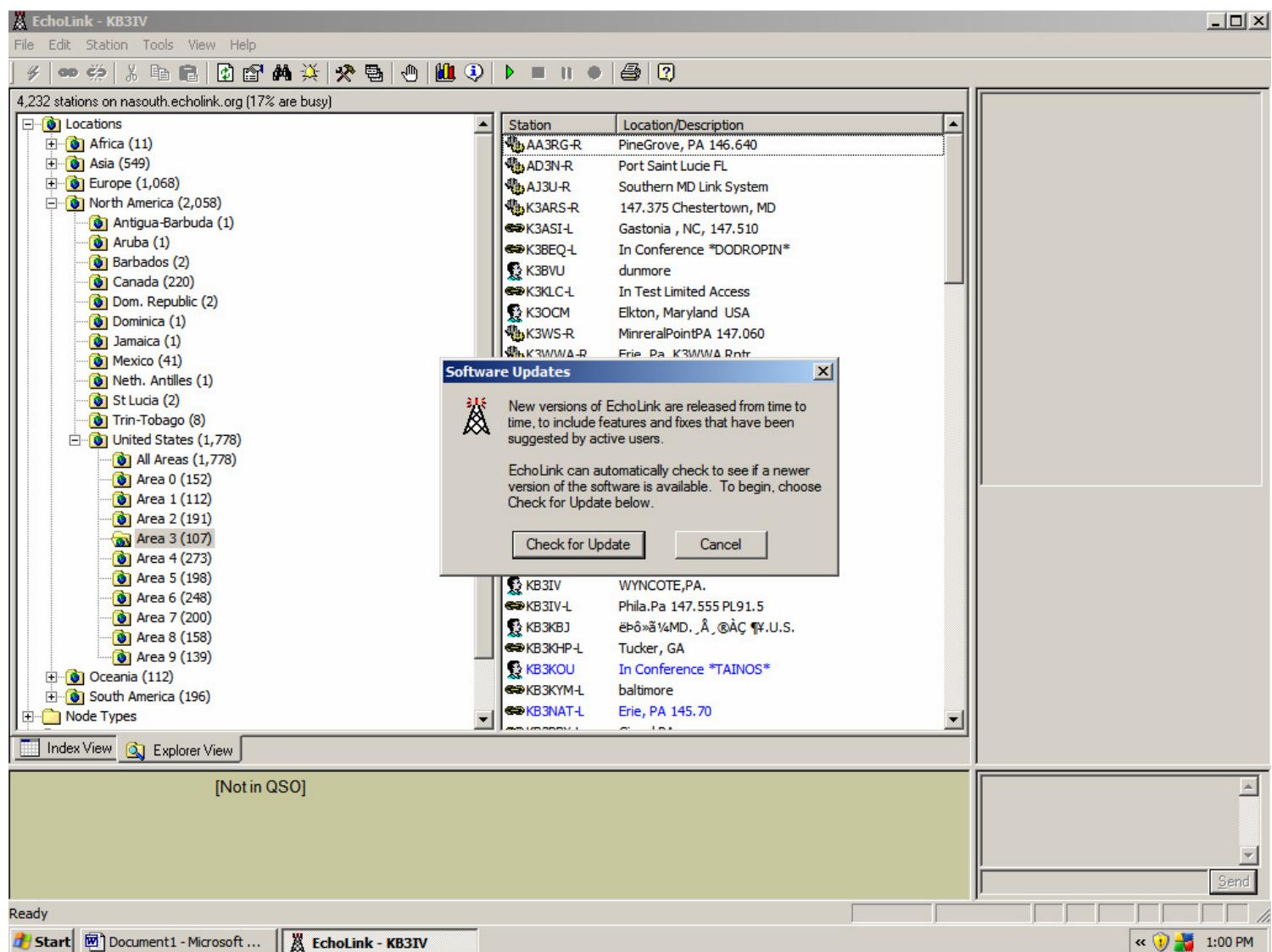
It is China's deadliest earthquake in 32 years. More than 245,000 were injured and 2 million are homeless.

*de QRZ.com*

### **Echolink Proxy Update (continued)**

The process is very user friendly, and should come in handy when you are traveling this summer. You must have an updated version of Echolink installed to take advantage of the process. I will outline below the steps to follow to painlessly use this utility.

First, bring up Echolink on your screen. At the top of your screen, click on *Help- Software Updates- Check for updates*. Click on *Check for updates*.



You may get a message "The version of Echolink is current. There is no need to upgrade." If your version is out of date, download the new one. It will overwrite your current program and will retain all your previous settings.

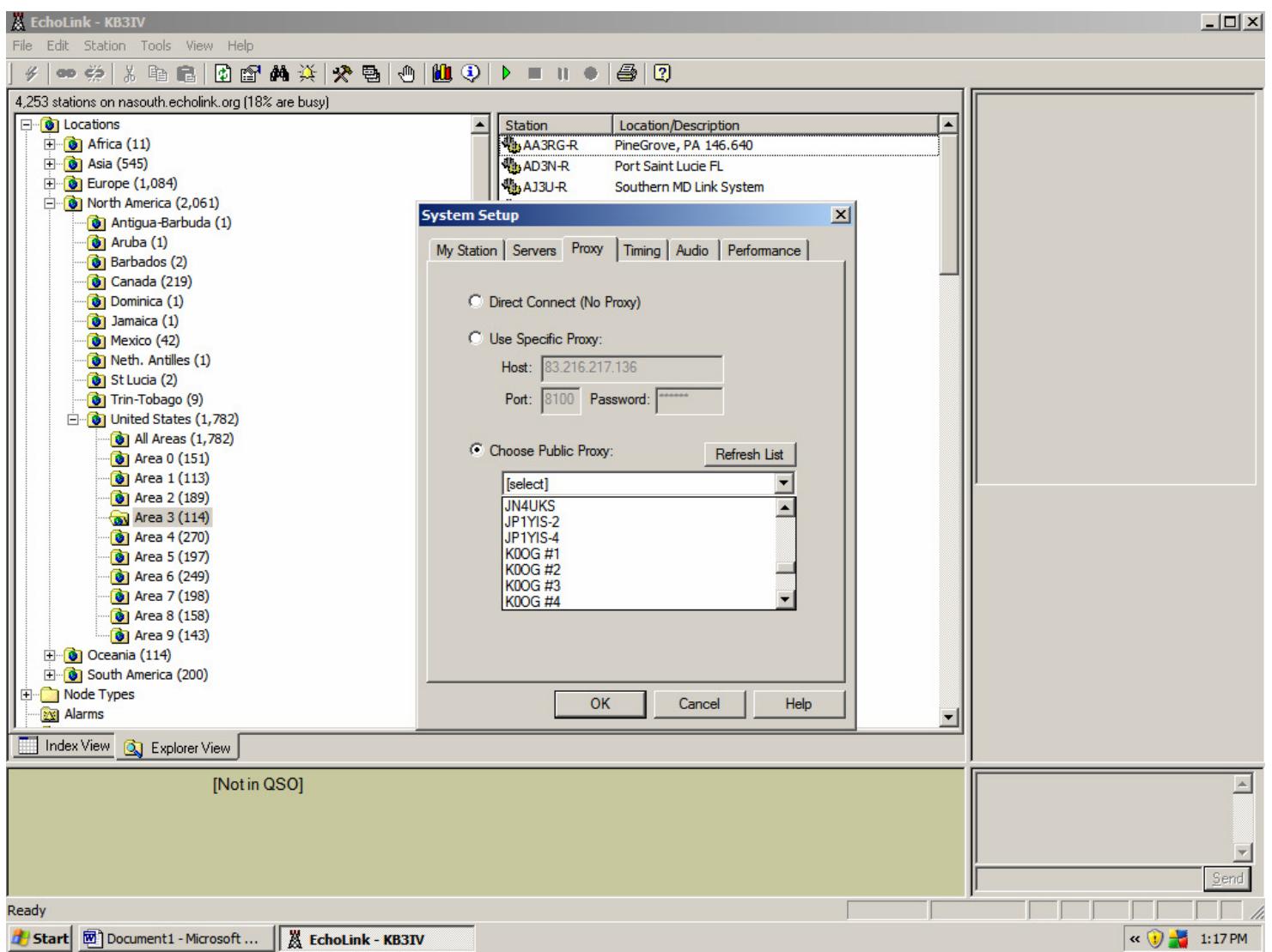
Now you are ready to use the new improved proxy server utility. Go to Tools, click Setup. In the System Setup window click Proxy tab. You will see three available selections. Put a dot in Choose Public Proxy and click on down arrow just below Refresh List. This will show available Proxy Servers you can use. Try to select one from the USA or Canada, but any of the others should work. Next click on OK and your Echolink will refresh and you will be able to try it out. Use the Echo Test utility to make sure you are set up properly. You should not have to use the Proxy when connecting from home if you configure your router for Port Forwarding and also

make sure your firewall is set to accept Echolink. For those who need extra help with their settings, you may contact me on the repeater or send me an email at kb3iv@verizon.net.

Hope to hear you on Echolink from all parts of the globe. If you can't bring your radio and antenna on vacation, you can keep in touch using your laptop or your relative's computer.

73,

**KB3IV Ed**



**Field Day Facts...**

Field Day is on June 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008. It will run from 1800 UTC Saturday to 2100 UTC Sunday. The Location will be at Fort Washington State Park, Route 73 and Militia Hill Road in Montgomery County. Our sites will be Site B and Site C which are located in the Ridge Road Tenting Area at the top of the hill. Driving instructions will be included in the PMRC BLURB Newsletter. Usually, PMRC operates 5 Alpha or 6 Alpha. This will be determined before the start of Field Day. The field Day logging software once again will be WR9R. It has worked for us the past few years: it's easy to use and its features are plain and simple. If you have a laptop computer with a USB port that you can use for logging, then please bring it with you. Our computers still work, even though old, but it would be nice if we could log onto Jump/Flash drives which a Phil-Mont member has already donated to the club.

The usual bands available are: 10, 15, 20, 40, 75, 160 meter Phone & 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, 160 meter CW. A digital station running PSK has been at Field Day in the past and hopefully will return again this year. Also included are the VHF and GOTA Station Band Captains will be responsible to bring your own RADIO, ANTENNA TUNER, POWER SUPPLY, ANY STATION ACCESSORIES YOU MAY NEED INCLUDING YOUR OWN POWER STRIP, GROUND ROD AND/OR GROUND WIRE IF YOU HAVE IT. Electrical extension cords will also be available. PMRC will be using the generator loaned to us by Bob, KB2ERL, to run most of the stations and the kitchen.

Those staying the weekend will need their names and names of family or friends attending Field Day on the "WU3I CHOW LINE LIST." Your names will be needed prior to Field Day to ensure an ample amount of food is purchased for the weekend. I believe there will be Saturday afternoon lunch, Saturday night dinner, Sunday breakfast and Sunday leftover lunch before breakdown. If your name is not on the list, you might not eat. If Steve, WU3I deems it necessary, there may be a need for some volunteers on Friday afternoon for setup at the sites. There will also be antenna and station setup bright and early Saturday morning. You might want

to try to be setup before 2 P.M. Saturday, so come as early as you can.

You can download a PDF copy of the rules from the ARRL.ORG website. Anyone needing information, wanting to volunteer as a Band Captain or operator can reach me at:

*my3gumbas@verizon.net*

215-289-7524 or 215-801-2361

*Thank you, Carmen KE3QB*

***Don't forget this MS150 info:***

**You can find the signup form for MS150 here:**

<https://www.ruh.info/ms150comm.nsf/signup?openform>

*de Lou, WX3I*

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***Equipment for sale by N3FD***

Power Supply 13v @ 2.5 amps Lambda LM-B12  
\$ 12.00

Power Supply 13v @ 10 amps Lambda LM-D12  
\$ 18.00

2 meter gain antenna Hustler G7-144 \$ 20.00

10-15-20 meter beam Mosley Classic 33 \$ 50.00

2 meter 5 element beam (manufacturer unknown)  
\$ 25.00

2 meter / 70 cm HT, Standard C528A \$ 90.00  
w/ speaker Mic

w/ drop in charger

700 mah Nicad dated 1/05

will need internal memory battery

has lower than normal receive audio

Good 5 watt TX, and Receive Sensitivity to spec.

***Contact Rick Spencer, N3FD 215-659-8469***

***June at PMRC...***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday net- *WU3I- ncs*  
 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday- Board Meeting  
 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday net- *W2AJV- ncs*  
 11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday- General Meeting  
 14<sup>th</sup> Flag Day- *Fly Old Glory!*  
 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday net- *KB3IV - ncs*  
     And ... *Father's Day!*  
 20<sup>th</sup> Summer solstice at 2359z  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday net- *N3OWM- ncs*  
 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday- VE test session  
 27<sup>th</sup> Friday- Field day set up? *Contact WU3I*  
 28<sup>th</sup> Saturday- VE session and Field day  
 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday- Field day &  
     Sunday net- *N3QV - ncs*

And don't forget the ARES net every Sunday night at 2100L on the club repeater. Larry, K3HWE, wants to hear from *you!*

**HF rig and HOUSE for sale:**

Wow, what a month! We're selling the house and moving to Glenside if all goes well. So if you know someone who is looking for a nice row home in Chestnut Hill please pass on my contact info.

*Still available: Icom 746Pro, HF-2meters 16 months old, low mileage. Contact your editor for a test drive.*

*KB3JWK@ARRL.net or call 215-908-7225*

*Thanks and 73 de Rick, KB3JWK*

**Outside of a dog a book is man's best friend.  
Inside a dog it's too dark to read.**

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***First Class Mail***

641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115  
 The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc

*The Blurb*